

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A side foldable wheelchair comprising:
 - at least one substantially horizontally extending upper side frame member;
 - at least one vertical side frame member having upper and lower ends, the upper end secured to the upper side frame member;
 - an axle housing secured to the vertical side frame member; and
 - a cross brace hinge secured directly to the vertical side frame member at the lower end of the vertical side frame member,
 - a cross brace secured to the vertical side frame member via the cross brace hinge, the cross brace hinge operable to pivot the cross brace with respect to the vertical frame member.
2. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 1 wherein the cross brace hinge includes a first hinge leaf, the hinge secured to the vertical side frame member at the first hinge leaf.
3. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 2 wherein the cross brace hinge includes a second hinge leaf.
4. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 3 further comprising an opposite cross brace hinge, wherein the opposite cross brace hinge is laterally aligned with the cross brace hinge.
5. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 3 wherein the second hinge leaf is formed integrally to the cross brace.

6. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 5 wherein a hinge pin is formed integrally to the second hinge leaf.
7. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 5 wherein the first hinge leaf includes at least one hinge knuckle.
8. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 7 wherein the second hinge leaf includes at least one hinge knuckle.
9. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 8 wherein the cross brace hinge includes a hinge pin, the hinge pin disposed in the hinge knuckles.
10. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 1 wherein the cross brace hinge forms a bottom frame member of the side foldable wheelchair.
11. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 1 wherein the axle housing and the cross brace hinge form bottom frame members of the side foldable wheelchair.
12. A side foldable wheelchair comprising:
 - at least one substantially horizontally extending upper side frame member;
 - at least one vertical side frame member having upper and lower ends, the upper end secured to the upper side frame member;
 - an axle housing secured to the vertical side frame member; and
 - a cross brace hinge secured directly to the vertical side frame member, wherein the axle housing and the cross brace hinge are substantially equidistant from the upper side frame member,

a cross brace secured to the vertical side frame member via the cross brace hinge, the cross brace hinge operable to pivot the cross brace with respect to the vertical frame member.

13. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 12 wherein the cross brace is secured to an opposite seat frame member.

14. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 13 wherein the cross brace is longitudinally offset.

15. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 13 wherein the cross brace is secured to the opposite seat frame member by fasteners cooperating with bores in the opposite seat frame member.

16. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 15 wherein the bores in the opposite seat frame member are discretely spaced bores.

17. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 16 wherein the vertical side frame member is longitudinally adjustable relative to the upper side frame member.

18. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 12 wherein the axle housing is adjustable relative to the vertical side frame member.

19. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 18 wherein the axle housing is secured to the vertical side frame member by fasteners cooperating with discretely spaced bores in the vertical side frame member.

20. The side foldable wheelchair of Claim 19 wherein the vertical side frame member and the axle housing matingly engage in a sliding, tongue and groove engagement.